

IN THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.-24. (Cancelled)

25. (New) A writing instrument comprising:

a body provided with an ink reservoir;

an inker element mounted on said body; and

a feeder device comprising:

a duct connecting the reservoir to said inker element and opening out into the reservoir via an opening, said duct presenting an inside wall; and

a valve having a tab received in said duct, the tab being extended by a head,

wherein said valve is mounted to slide between a closed position in which the head is pressed against a shoulder bordering the opening so as to prevent ink from flowing, and an open position in which the head is located at least in part away from the shoulder so as to enable ink to flow through the opening, wherein a gap is formed between the tab and the inside wall of the duct, and wherein the tab projects from said duct towards said inker element.

26. (New) A writing instrument according to claim 25, in which said valve is made of, or is coated in, a hydrophobic material.

27. (New) A writing instrument according to claim 26, in which said valve is made of, or coated in, silicone.

28. (New) A writing instrument according to claim 25, in which said duct is rectangular in section, the tab being pyramid-shaped.

29. (New) A writing instrument according to claim 25, in which said feeder device further comprises a sleeve in which the opening is formed, wherein the sleeve is engaged on a nozzle of the reservoir and has said valve mounted therein.

30. (New) A writing instrument according to claim 25, in which said valve is provided with through holes provided in the head in the vicinity of the tab.

31. (New) A writing instrument according to claim 30, in which the holes are in the form of slots having parallel edges, said valve presenting a peripheral portion that is stationary relative to said body and a central portion including the tab, the central portion being movable between a closed position in which the edges of each slot coincide, and an open position in which the edges of the slots are offset so as to allow the ink to flow.

32. (New) A writing instrument according to claim 25, in which said inker element is continuously in contact with the tab.

33. (New) A writing instrument according to claim 25, in which said inker element is movable between a writing position in which it urges said valve towards an open position to allow the ink to flow, and a rest position in which it allows said valve to occupy a closed position.

34. (New) A writing instrument according to claim 33, in which said inker element is secured on a support mounted to slide relative to said body between a writing position in which said inker element urges said valve towards an open position to allow the ink to flow, and a rest position in which said inker element enables said valve to occupy a closed position.

35. (New) A writing instrument according to claim 34, in which the support is urged towards the rest position by a return spring.

36. (New) A writing instrument according to claim 35, in which the return spring comprises a spring blade integrated in the support and bearing against a wall that is stationary relative to said body.

37. (New) A writing instrument according to claim 25, in which said body extends along a main axis, and said inker element is a roller mounted to rotate about an axis that is perpendicular to the main axis.

38. (New) A writing instrument according to claim 37, in which said inker element is in peripheral contact with a writing roller mounted to rotate about an axis parallel

to the axis of the intermediate roller, and suitable for coming into contact with a writing medium.

39. (New) A writing instrument according to claim 38, in which the diameter of the inker roller is smaller than the diameter of the writing roller.

40. (New) A writing instrument according to claim 27, in which said duct is rectangular in section, the tab being pyramid-shaped.

41. (New) A writing instrument according to claim 27, in which said feeder device comprises a sleeve in which the opening is formed, wherein the sleeve is engaged on a nozzle of the reservoir and has said valve mounted therein.

42. (New) A writing instrument according to claim 27, in which said valve is provided with through holes provided in the head in the vicinity of the tab.

43. (New) A writing instrument according to claim 27, in which said inker element is continuously in contact with the tab.

44. (New) A writing instrument according to claim 27, in which said inker element is movable between a writing position in which it urges said valve towards an open position to allow the ink to flow, and a rest position in which it allows said valve to occupy a closed position.

45. (New) A writing instrument according to claim 27, in which said feeder device comprises a sleeve in which the opening is formed, wherein the sleeve is engaged on a nozzle of the reservoir and has said valve mounted therein.

46. (New) A writing instrument according to claim 27, in which said valve is provided with through holes provided in the head in the vicinity of the tab.

47. (New) A writing instrument according to claim 27, in which said inker element is continuously in contact with the tab.

48. (New) A writing instrument according to claim 27, in which said inker element is movable between a writing position in which it urges said valve towards an open

position to allow the ink to flow, and a rest position in which it allows said valve to occupy a closed position.

49. (New) A writing instrument comprising:

a body provided having an ink reservoir;

an inker element mounted on said body; and

a feeder device comprising:

a duct connecting the reservoir to said inker element and opening out into the reservoir via an opening, said duct presenting an inside wall; and

a valve having a tab received in said duct, the tab being extended by a head,

wherein said valve is mounted to slide between a closed position in which the head is pressed against a shoulder bordering the opening so as to prevent ink from flowing, and an open position in which the head is located at least in part away from the shoulder so as to enable ink to flow through the opening, wherein a gap is formed between the tab and the inside wall of said duct, and wherein the tab projects from said duct towards said inker element, and

wherein said duct is rectangular in section, the tab being pyramid-shaped.

50. (New) A writing instrument comprising:

a body provided having an ink reservoir;

an inker element mounted on said body; and

a feeder device comprising:

a duct connecting the reservoir to said inker element and opening out into the reservoir via an opening, said duct presenting an inside wall; and

a valve having a tab received in said duct, the tab being extended by a head

wherein said valve is mounted to slide between a closed position in which the head is pressed against a shoulder bordering the opening so as to prevent ink from flowing, and an open position in which the head is located at least in part away from the shoulder so as to enable ink to flow through the opening, wherein a gap is formed between the tab and the inside wall of said duct, and wherein the tab projects from said duct towards said inker element, and

wherein said valve is provided with through holes provided in the head in the vicinity of the tab.